



Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense: Legislative Affairs

Legislative Update

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HOMELAND DEFENSE

DOD SUPPORT FOR HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2005, AS OF 0600**

Command and Control

- U.S. Northern Command Commander is Admiral Keating in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- Joint Task Force Katrina Commander is Lieutenant General Honore at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.
- Joint Task Force Louisiana National Guard Commander is Major General Landreneau, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Joint Task Force Mississippi National Guard Commander is Major General Cross at Jackson, Mississippi.

Operational Highlights

- 60,407 Active Duty and National Guard personnel are on the ground or aboard ships supporting relief operations.
 - 17,417 Active Duty.
 - 42,990 National Guard.
- 20 U.S. Navy ships are in the Joint Operational Area .
- Total aviation support includes Active Duty and National Guard aircraft:
 - 360 helicopters (180 Active Duty & 180 National Guard).
 - 93 airplanes (70 Active Duty & 23 National Guard).
- DoD has provided extensive search and rescue, evacuation, and medical support:
 - 5,211 sorties flown – 802 in the past 24-hours.
 - 75,000 people evacuated.
 - 14,224 people rescued.
 - 7,500 patients evacuated by ground and an additional 2,552 evacuated by air.
 - 5,512 patients treated.
- Projected flow of personnel for the next 24 – 48 hours:
 - 1,419 National Guard
 - 5,441 Active Duty
- Joint Task Force Katrina (Forward) will relocate to the USS IWO JIMA within 24 hours.



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- Corps of Engineers closed 17th Street Canal levee breach and began pumping operations on September 6. Working to open pump station #7.
- 82nd Airborne Division, 1st Cavalry Division, I and II Marine Expeditionary Force will conduct humanitarian, search and rescue, evacuation and security missions.
- Mortuary Affairs is expected to arrive at Camp Shelby, 7 Sep to assist FEMA with processing of deceased.
- Armed Forces Institute of Pathology is providing a specialized DNA team to assist with identification of fatalities.
- USS WHIDBEY ISLAND and USS GRAPPLE arrived in the Gulf:
 - USS WHIDBEY ISLAND delivered six floating bridges to replace destroyed bridges in New Orleans. USS GRAPPLE is on station to support salvage and clearing operations with the U.S. Coast Guard.
- USNS COMFORT, staffed to treat 250 patients, will arrive 9 September.
- U.S. Army element arrived at Camp Shelby, Mississippi equipped with airborne and ground loud speakers to assist with evacuation operations.
- DoD provided 1,500 mobile radios and technical support to be used by officials in Mississippi and Louisiana; radios arrived September 6 and given to the 82nd Airborne at the New Orleans Airport.
- Six installations are providing support as transportation staging areas for ice, water, and medical supplies.
 - Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas is the central collection point within DoD for supplies donated by foreign countries.
- Military Sealift Command contracted for one passenger ship to provide lodging for disaster victims and response personnel.
- 21 million MREs have ordered by FEMA.
- 745 beds are available in field hospitals: New Orleans International Airport (25 beds), USS BATAAN (360 beds) and USS IWO JIMA (360 beds).
- Ten Department of Health and Human Services Federal Medical Shelters (250 beds each) are located at DoD installations: Eglin Air Force Base, Florida (2 shelters); Fort Polk, Louisiana (4 shelters); Meridian Naval Air Station, Mississippi (4 shelters).
- Air Force established 1 of 3 tent cities at New Orleans International Airport.